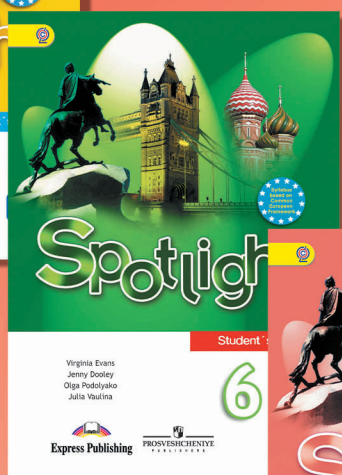
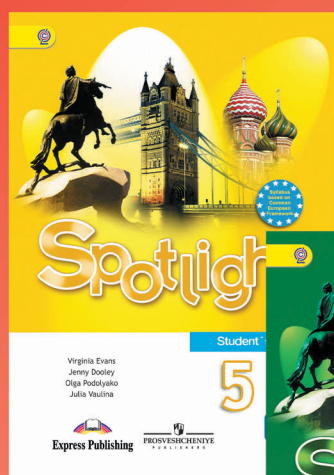


Spotlight on Chita


ПРОСВЕЩЕНИЕ
ИЗДАТЕЛЬСТВО



vol.8

ОГЛАВЛЕНИЕ

SPOTLIGHT ON CHITA	3
ОБЩИЕ СВЕДЕНИЯ О РЕГИОНЕ.....	5
ИСТОРИЯ ОБЛАСТИ, ГЕРОИЧЕСКИЕ СТРАНИЦЫ.....	7
ПАМЯТНИКИ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНОСТИ РЕГИОНА.....	11
ТРАДИЦИИ И ПРАЗДНИКИ.....	12
ИНТЕРЕСНЫЕ ОБЪЕКТЫ КУЛЬТУРЫ, СПОРТА, ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ И ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ	13
ПРИРОДА И ЖИВОТНЫЙ МИР РЕГИОНА	19

Spotlight on Chita

Ассоциация учителей иностранных языков Забайкальского края была создана весной 2019 года. Участники Ассоциации рассматривают актуальные вопросы иноязычного образования, делятся опытом, находят интересные решения в проблемных ситуациях. Большое внимание уделяется региональному компоненту иноязычного образования. Данная площадка стала прекрасной возможностью для учителей края рассказать о своей малой родине, о столице Забайкальского края. В планах – создание сборника о достопримечательностях и уникальных местах Забайкальского края. Данное пособие содержит информацию о столице Забайкальского края – Чите.

Современная Чита – это административный центр Забайкальского края, современный транспортно-логический узел Транссибирской магистрали и федеральных автодорог «Байкал» и «Амур», международный аэропорт. Чита – это город-предприниматель, центр международной торговли, культурный, образовательный и научный центр. Чита – это развивающийся город с населением 349 983 человек. (2019), строящимися современными микрорайонами.

. Город расположен между двух хребтов: Яблонового на западе и Черского на востоке, в месте впадения реки Читы в Ингоду. В пределах Читы находится гора Титовская сопка высотой 946 метров, а также озеро Кенон.

Чита – это история

Ученый, революционер П.А.Кропоткин сказал: «История маленькой Читы была историей всей России». Первые люди на территории Читы появились уже в каменном веке. Остатки жилищ, орудия труда, наскальные рисунки, мастерская каменных орудий найдены археологами в черте города - на Титовской сопке. Появление Читы связано с освоением огромных просторов Сибири служивыми людьми. Отряд Петра Бекетова в 1653 г. добрался до р. Ингоды и заложил зимовье. На месте современного города появилось Плотбище, затем Читинская слобода, Читинский острог...

Декабристы превратили маленькую в 75 деревянных домов с 393 жителями деревушку в столичный город. По мнению краеведа, кандидата философских наук Андрея Букина, декабристы "были первой невольной, но качественной инвестицией в развитие Забайкалья". "Потраченные здесь ими и их женами средства всколыхнули экономику и товарное производство, стали основой для развития территории. Декабристы во многом предопределили культурное развитие края и отразили в далекой провинциальной Чите воспоминания о блеске имперской столицы. Этим отсветом Чита, по большому счету, живет и по сей день", – уверен он.

В 1851 году Чита получила статус города. В XX веке, после революции, Чита в течение 3 лет была столицей Дальневосточной республики, затем вошла в состав СССР как административный центр Читинской области. 1 марта 2008 год был образован Забайкальский край, Чита стала его столицей.

Чита – этнический калейдоскоп

Жители Читы уважают традиции христиан, буддистов, мусульман и представителей других конфессий. В 2004 году в Чите было завершено строительство самого крупного в Сибири храма «Во имя иконы Казанской божьей матери». В 2008 году в городе был восстановлен буддийский дацан. В Чите открыт молодежный клуб «Многонациональное Забайкалье», сплотивший активистов всех диаспор города и края.

Чита – это мир фестивалей

Забайкальский Международный Кинофестиваль ежегодно проводится в Чите. Это уникальное кинематографическое событие – первый в истории фестиваль кино, проходящий на забайкальской земле, совершенствующий её культуру, сохраняющий традиции и этнографические особенности Забайкалья.

Музыкальный фестиваль «Цветущий багульник» заслуженно имеет репутацию одного из самых главных культурных событий нашего края и статус культурного бренда региона.

Главная идея фестиваля - знакомство забайкальцев с шедеврами мировой музыкальной культуры, сохранение и приумножение духовного и нравственного потенциала жителей Забайкальского края.

Чита – солнечный край с суровым климатом

Климат г. Читы очень своеобразен. Резко-континентальный климат обусловлен значительной приподнятостью над уровнем моря, удаленностью от океанов и морей. Большая продолжительность солнечного сияния и большее поступление солнечной энергии сочетается с более низкой температурой воздуха. Чита принадлежит к числу самых солнечных городов России, так в году здесь солнце светит в чистом небе на 43 % больше часов, чем в Москве, и по этому показателю город соответствует Сочи и Анапе.

Информация о Чите представлена в данном пособии и может быть использована учителями английского языка города Читы и Забайкальского края как органичное включение регионального содержания (сведений о природных, экономических, исторических, социокультурных, демографических, этнопсихологических особенностях города) в базовое содержание. При таком построении региональный материал используется для расширения основных тем и разделов базового содержания иноязычного образования и усиливает воспитательный аспект уроков. Обучающиеся получают возможность совершенствовать свои речевые компетенции и научатся представлять свой край иностранным гостям.

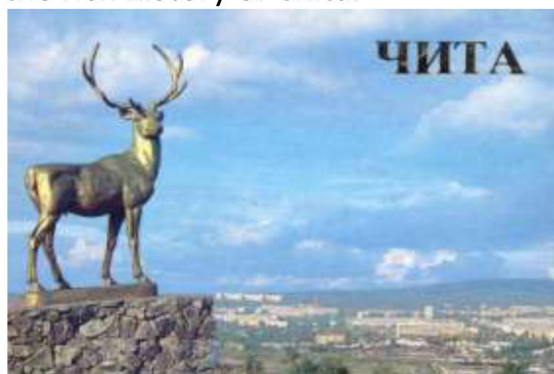
*Кузнецова Елена Анатольевна
МБОУ "Средняя общеобразовательная школа № 9" г. Читы
учитель английского и немецкого языков*



My hometown Chita



Chita is my hometown. Here I was born and grew up, so I have been living here all my life. I cannot help but love it. By the way "Chita" is feminine, unlike other Far Eastern cities; she is their mother or sister. You can find confirmation of this in the rich history of Chita.



Славный город, где ценят и дело и слово,
Где неброско и просто, но дружно живёт,
За Байкалом, в местах, отдалённых, суровых
Удивительно стойкий, спокойный народ,
И невзгоды снести терпеливо готовый,
И по праздникам звонкие песни споёт.
Николай Балусев

To my readers

It's sad to see the younger generation eager to leave this city... Chita infrastructure is consistent with the level of the regional center, although inferior to the cities of millions. The city has a sufficient number of cinemas, theaters and concert hall, sports clubs and entertainment centers, so there is a lot where to spend your free time. The socio-economic state of the Transbaikal territory as one of the most unpromising regions in Russia, the capital of which "Chita was recognized as having no potential for growth and experiencing decline in almost all spheres – from the economy and welfare of citizens to infrastructure development and housing construction", significantly affected the value orientations of the younger generation. Young people are eager to leave as soon as possible this "convict land, a zone of risky agriculture, the most criminal region of the Siberian district, subsidized, with high prices for gasoline, huge queues to kindergartens..." Those who leave our region are mostly guided by material values that are far from perfect in our region and determine the negative attitude to it. In these conditions, there is a particularly acute need for the formation of spiritual and moral values, the basis of which is a respectful attitude of man not only to himself but also to other people, society, to the Motherland, to a small Homeland, to nature. If the spiritual component is important for a person, then he will strive to create it around him, improving, transforming his native land, and not look for the best somewhere on the side.

The value cannot be imposed on anyone, that no moralizing will not make students love their land. To my mind, it is necessary to organize the process of assimilation and acceptance of values so that they become personally and voluntarily chosen by the students themselves. Without any doubt, it is necessary to show the real state of affairs, in any case not to idealize reality of human activity, social relations and natural phenomena. But everything is known in comparison and must be evaluated in the dichotomy of good and evil, reality and myths, beautiful and terrible, permissible and forbidden, just and unjust.

Chita is considered to be a backward provincial town. You can find a lot of information in mass media about bad points of life in Chita. I would like to show you another side, to introduce the rich and exciting past and beautiful present of Chita. I hope the information about Chita will help you understand that this city is unique.

Elena Anatolievna Kuznetsova

ОБЩИЕ СВЕДЕНИЯ О РЕГИОНЕ

CHITA. . . WHERE IS IT? (КУЗНЕЦОВА ЕЛЕНА АНАТОЛЬЕВНА, МБОУ "СРЕДНЯЯ ОБЩЕОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНАЯ ШКОЛА № 9" Г. ЧИТЫ)

Chita...

Where is it?



The photo of the Kenon was taken and published by the Russian cosmonaut Oleg Artemiev in his blog.



The confluence of the Chita and Ingoda Rivers

Can you describe geographical position of any place? Where is Chita located? They say it is very far from the Central Russia. Is it so?

Grammar in focus

1. Find out the geographical names about Chita in the text. Explain the usage of the articles with them.
2. In the text, find all the passive verb forms, name them and translate the sentences.

Activities

Imagine you want to invite your English friend to Chita. Use the information from the text to tell him how to get to Chita. Talk about

- where Chita is located
- what kind of transport can he use
- what way of travelling is the best to you mind
- welcome your friend

Chita is a city and the administrative center of Zabaikalsky Krai. It is located in Asia, in the Central part of Transbaikalye, Russia. The area of the city is 538 km² (11th in Russia). Chita lies at the confluence of the Chita river (locals often call it "Chitinka") into the Ingoda (the Amur basin). On the territory of the city there are lakes Kenon and Ugdan (now it is dry) which are the remains of the lake basin of the Pleistocene era. In the Chita-Ingodinskaya depression, Chita is surrounded by mountain ranges and hills. There is the Yablonovy ridge in the west and the Chersky ridge in the east of Chita. The highest point in the city is Chita mountain (1039 m), the lowest one (632 m) is in the valley of the Ingoda river between the village of Peschanka and the village Atamanovka. The Titovskaya Sopka mountain (780 m) is located in the south-east of the city. It is a volcanic structure, the formation of which began in the upper Paleozoic. Sukhotino, the rocky complex on the slope of Titovskaya hill and rock formations "Palaces" in the valley of the stream Kadalinka have been chosen by the residents for outdoor activities. The mountain taiga with pine, spruce, and larch is located in the north-east of the city. You can get to Chita by plane, by train or by car. Chita is served by Kadala Airport, situated 15 km to the west of the city. Chita is also a large railway station on the Trans-Siberian Railway, 6074 kilometers east of Moscow. The Federal highway passes through Chita, leading from Irkutsk (Irkutsk – Chita "Baikal" M-55) and then to Khabarovsk (Chita – Khabarovsk "Amur" M-58), branch to the village of Zabaikalsk, linking Russia with China (Chita – Zabaikalsk A-166).



Word box

to locate – to situate or place
to surround – to encircle or enclose, to exist around
to serve – to provide with a regular supply
confluence – a merging or flowing together, esp. of rivers
depression – a depressed or sunken place or area
sopka (local) – hill
slope – at the foot of a hill
taiga (from Russian) – a depressed or sunken place or area

Decembrists in Chita



Chitinsky Ostrog



Decembrists are reading the message of Pushkin "In the depths of Siberian ores..."



The first plan of Chita

According to local historian, PhD Andrei Bukin, the Decembrists "were the first involuntary, but high-quality investment in the development of Transbaikal territory."

What had the Decembrists done to be commemorated for centuries?



Dmitry Zavalishin

Activities

Use the information from the text to explain why the Chita citizens should be grateful to the Decembrists.

Make the list of contributions they made to the development of our town.

Grammar in focus

Be careful! Passive voice!
Write down the Passive verbs from the text.

The Decembrists Uprising in St. Petersburg on December 14, 1825 became a landmark in the history of the country and of our town. The participants of the uprising challenged the Tsar in an armed revolt but they failed. More than a hundred officers were sentenced to different terms of exile. 74 Decembrists were exiled to Chita. The first group of four convicts arrived in Chita in June 1827. The Decembrists lived in Chita for only three years, but they made a great contribution to the cultural development of the region. At that time there were about 400 people, 75 houses, including 3 houses of officers and 5 houses of officials.

The Decembrists were the first to construct roads and build two – storied houses in Chita. The inhabitants of Chita were not used to growing vegetables. The Decembrists introduced previously unknown for the native people crops such as vegetables, rye, buckwheat and advanced agricultural methods such as greenhouse cultivation.

In 1830 P.I. Fallenberg obtained permission to remove the plan of the jail. He made and drew detailed plan, which first recorded the planning scheme of streets and buildings of the settlement. Decembrist Fallenberg made a topographic plan which in future would become the city of Chita.

D. Zavalishin stayed in Chita after the term of punishment expired in 1839. He appealed to the authorities for permission to teach. The first primary and secondary school was organized for children of Cossacks and peasants. He provided schools with textbooks, he worked as a teacher. Zavalishin made the plan of constructing and developing of the settlement. The straight streets and quarters of our town are to a great extend the result of Zavalishin's plan. Zavalishin had a great influence on the local administration. He did a lot to prove that the geographical location of Chita allowed it, and not Nerchinsk to be the center of the Transbaikal territory. Thanks to Zavalishin's advice the governor-general of Zabaikalskaya volost Nikolay Muravyov-Amursky made Chita the second point after Irkutsk. In 1863 D. Zavalishin was sent to Kazan.



The Decembrists Church

Word box

What meaning of **a landmark** fits the context best:

- 1) a prominent or well-known object in or feature of a particular landscape
- 2) an important or unique decision, event, fact, discovery, etc
- 3) a boundary marker or signpost

Chita in the past



At the beginning



Nowadays



Pyotr Alexeevich Kropotkin (1842-1921).

In 1864-1865 he took part in expeditions to Eastern Siberia on the Ingoda, Shilka, Amur, researched and gathered materials about buryats, tunguses. He said: ***"The history of a small town Chita is the history of the whole country"***. Do you agree with P. Kropotkin?

Activities

1. To remember different names of Chita in the 17-19 centuries fill in the table. Use the information from the text.

name	meaning	period

2. Study two pictures above. Be ready to compare and contrast the photos. In your talk remember to speak about

- give a brief description of the photos;
- say what the pictures have in common;
- say in what way the pictures differ
- would you like to take a virtual journey to Chita in the past;
- explain why.

3. Find out why Chita was chosen as the place of exile?

Chita was founded in 1653 when Pyotr Beketov built the first winter hut on the banks of the river Chita. First, this settlement was named as Plotbishche (as rafts and barges were built there) with only 6 houses in it. Later in 1687 Chita was mentioned as New Sloboda and some specialists consider 1687 the year of Chita foundation. At the beginning of the 18th century Sloboda was renamed into Ostrog. In 1706 the Chita prison was built. It was a small wooden fortification with the protected settlement. Since 1721 a lot of state criminals were exiled from Russia to Siberia, to Dauriya, to the Nerchinsk silver plants. For two centuries convicts and exiles trudged along the Great Moscow Highway to Nerchinsk mines and plants. In 1797 Chitinsky Ostrog became an official settlement. In spite of the growth of the population in the 18th century, the importance of the Ostrog as a fortification gradually decreased. In general, the former prison became the transitional point on the way to Nerchinsk. Chita was simply a rural village, with two or three dozen wooden houses. On July 11, 1851 Chita became the center of Zabaikalskaya province. In the same year Transbaikal Cossacks Troops were organized by Tsar's Decree.

Word box

winter hut – a small house or shelter, usually made of wood
an exile – a person banished of living away from his home or country
a convict – a person found guilty of an offence against the law
to trudge – to walk heavily or wearily

CHITA IN THE XXth CENTURY (КУЗНЕЦОВА ЕЛЕНА АНАТОЛЬЕВНА, МБОУ "СРЕДНЯЯ ОБЩЕОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНАЯ ШКОЛА № 9" Г. ЧИТЫ)

Chita in the XXth century



The twentieth century was full of turbulent events: the Russian-Japanese war of 1904-1905, the first world war of 1914-1918, the revolution of 1917, the civil war and the Second world war of 1939-1945, fundamental political changes in the country in the 1990s. And what about Chita?



Activities

1. Chita was an active participant in the historical life of the country. Use the Fact Files with information about main events in Chita in the XXth century. Which of them are the most important to your mind? Why?

2. Match photos above with the events they illustrate.

3. Study two pictures in the top. Be ready to compare and contrast the photos. In your talk remember to speak about

- give a brief description of the photos;
- say what the pictures have in common;
- say in what way the pictures differ
- would you like to walk around Chita;
- explain why.

1900 – big Trans-Siberian railway center
 December, 1905 - January 1906 – center of the Chita Republic, a short-term workers and peasants' dictator republic
 1920-1922 – capital of Far Eastern Republic
 Since 1922 – administrative center of Zabaikalskaya province
 1933 - the first air line Chita - Harbin - Vladivostok - Tokyo
 1935 - the center of the Transbaikalian military district
 Since 1937 – administrative center of the Chita Region
 1939 - the undeclared short-term war. The military operation in the area of the Mongolian river Khalkhin Gol continued from spring to autumn 1939. The Transbaikilians played a big role in the victory. Chita was the headquarters of Soviet troops, so the city became the center of control and supply of the military group. The final battle took place in August and ended with the complete defeat of the 23rd infantry division of the 6th separate army of Japan. 30 thousands of the Transbaikilians took part in military operations, 10 061 of them were killed, missing, died of wounds.
 1941 - the headquarters of the Transbaikalian front
 1941-1945 - the enterprises worked for the front: up to 100 names of parts for the aircraft were produced by the plant № 117, hand grenades and flamethrowers were produced by Chita locomotive repair plant, fur coats were made by sheepskin processing factory
 August 1945 - the frontline town, rate of the main command of the Far Eastern Front led by Marshal A. M. Vasilevsky.
 1972 - for great success in economic and cultural construction Chita was awarded the order of the October Revolution.
 1975 - Memorial of Military and Labor Glory was opened to the 30th anniversary of the Victory
 1991 - the activities of the city Committee of the CPSU were terminated, and the city Executive Committee of the Soviet of people's deputies was replaced by the Chita city administration. The first head of the city administration was R. F. Geniatulin
 1993 - the international airport
 1998 - the center of Siberian military district (SibVO) in new military-administrative division



Word box

Words from the history of the USSR

Soviet (in the former Soviet Union) n. - an elected government council at the local, regional, and national levels, which culminated in the Supreme Soviet;

adj. - of or relating to a soviet

the CPSU - abbreviation for (formerly) Communist Party of the Soviet Union
people's deputies - the official name of deputies of all types of representative bodies in the USSR under the Constitution of 1977

Chita. XXI century

Population 2010	324.444
Population 2019	349.983
Density 2019	655.4/sq km
Time zone	YAKT (MSK+6;UTC+9)
Postal code	672000-672051
Dialing code	+7 3022



It is a large industrial and cultural center of the country.
The city has great past, worthy present and bright future. Anyone who has visited Chita will tell you that!

**Activities**

1. Read the lyrics of the Chita anthem.
Try to retell or translate the lyrics. How do you explain the content of the anthem to your foreign friend?

2. Imagine that you are preparing an excursion through Chita to your foreign friend. Read the text and find out interesting material for the presentation of the city. Remember to speak about:

- where and when the trip starts;
- why you would like to show this place

In the first decade of the new century Chita became a member of Association of Siberian and Far East cities, Congress of municipal entities of the RF, Union of Historical Cities. In 2004 Chita became the winner of national award "For worthy deeds – grateful Russia", in 2005 Chita won the Russian national contest of economic development "Golden Rouble" in the Siberian Federal District.

Within a short period of time the face of the city has considerably changed. In 2005, the company RUS began construction of the first neighbourhood Ocityabrsky with parks, alley and the first at that time complex of playgrounds. On the site of the former cinema Ocityabr, one of the residential buildings of the neighbourhood was built. There is a chiming clock in the Alexander square.

Another micro-district, the Tsarsky residential complex, was started in 2011. The micro-district was named in honour of the 120th anniversary of the arrival of Nicholas II in Transbaikalye. The monument to the Tsar Nicholas II was erected there in 2016.

In 2008, Chita became the center of the newly formed Zabaikalsky Krai. The industrial potential of the city is based on economic activity which is represented by the production of electrical equipment, building materials, machinery. Energy and food production are the leading industries. There are near 700 various economic institutions, most of them are of private type
10 municipal grant programs are successfully implemented in the city. Recourse base of educational, sports, health and culture institutions is updated.

In the first decade of the new century the following official symbols of the city were approved: in 2006 – Chita flag, in 2007 – Chita coat of arms, and in 2008 – Chita anthem.

Chita is a gateway to Asia not only for the whole Russian Far East, but also for a number of western territories of Russia. Chita is one of the Russian cities which can boast impressive cooperation experience embracing various partnership patterns including both personal contacts and investment projects. Twinning is an important part of international relations. Relationship, the so-called "people diplomacy" contributes to the development of industrial, commercial and cultural ties.

Twin cities of Chita

- Ulan-Ude, Russia (since 2011).
- Manchuria, PRC (since 1999).
- Abilene, USA (since 1996).
- Choibalsan, Mongolia (since 1995).
- Tita, Japan (since 1994).
- Hailar, PRC (since 1992).

Word box

neighbour - a person who lives near or next to another

neighbourhood - ?

reside - to live permanently or for a considerable time (in a place); have one's home (in)

resident - ?

SYMBOL OF GREAT FAITHFULNESS (КУЗНЕЦОВА ЕЛЕНА АНАТОЛЬЕВНА, МБОУ "СРЕДНЯЯ ОБЩЕОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНАЯ ШКОЛА № 9" Г. ЧИТЫ)

Symbol of great faithfulness



House of Elisaveta Naryshkina, the wife of the Decembrist Mikhail Naryshkin

The 8th July can become a wonderful time to celebrate the Day of the Family in Russia. Throughout history, the Russians believe that strong and fruitful families are the secure foundation of society and they assure the prosperity of the state. **Square of Love and Fidelity in Chita is a monument to the pioneers of the Transbaikal territory and their wives, who faithfully followed their husbands.** The symbolic monument "Love and Fidelity" was erected at the corner of the former Damskaya and Amurskaya streets in Chita in 2011, and the Naryshkins' house has been lovingly preserved to the present day.



Sculpture Love and Fidelity

"In the depths of Siberian ores..." Pushkin wrote to his Lyceum friend, Ivan Pushchin, as a kind of message to all the Decembrists. The piece of paper with poems was passed by Alexandra Muravyova, one of those Holy women who are called "wives of the Decembrists."

The **Decembrist wife** is a Russian symbol of the devotion of a wife to her husband. Nine wives followed their husbands and shared their fate of prisoners in Siberia, overcoming the opposition of the authorities and of their relatives, losing their rights and possessions, and travelling thousands of kilometers by sledge and carriage. But nothing could stop these courageous women.

The first of them was Ekaterina Trubetskaya. In those days, going there was like sending to the end of the world in the terrible wilderness, hopelessness of life. Having reached Irkutsk in three months, she went further, to the place of exile of the husband, on a stage, together with criminals. Maria Volkonskaya was the youngest of all the Decembrist wives. The real authority among the ladies was the wife of Nikita Muravyov, Alexandra. She died first among the Decembrists at the age of 28.

Chita authorities ordered to build small wooden houses for women. The street where they were located was called the Damskaya Street.

The wives of Decembrists show us the improbable force of human spirit! For two centuries they have been an example of devotion, loyalty, the ability to sacrifice them in the name of love. Of the 11 women, only 8 lived to see the Tsar's Amnesty in 1856, only five of them had living husbands by that time.

There was another remarkable woman **Pauline Guebl**, a French milliner who worked in a Parisian fashion house in Moscow. She met and fell in love with Ivan Annenkov. When he was exiled to Siberia, Pauline pled with Nicholas I to allow her to be exiled with her fiancé. The permission from the tsar was very hard to obtain and Pauline, now known as Polina Annenkova, joined her fiancé in Chita, where they were finally married. The wedding ceremony was in the Michael the Archangel Church. After the wedding ceremony, Ivan's chains were clamped on again and he was returned to prison.

Dmitry Zavalishin and Appolinaria Smolyaninova got married in that church too.

Wedding of Pauline Guebl with Ivan Annenkov recorded for posterity



Activities

Have you ever watched *The Star of Fascinating Happiness* (Звезда пленительного счастья), a 1975 Soviet historical drama? It is a drama dedicated to the women of Russia. This film is worth watching.



Word box

What does **fidelity** mean?

- 1) devotion to duties, obligations, etc.; faithfulness
- 2) loyalty or devotion, as to a person or cause
- 3) faithfulness to one's spouse, lover, etc
- 4) adherence to truth; accuracy in reporting detail

Chita multinational



Club "Multinational Transbaikalia"



Cathedral "In the name of the Kazan icon of the mother of God"

More than 100 ethnic groups make up the population of Chita. Chita is a multi-faith city where residents respect the traditions of Christians, Buddhists, Muslims, Jews and representatives of other faiths. All of them live in peace and harmony. Is it interesting to live in such a diverse world?



Sagaalga

Chita has always been distinguished by ethnic tolerance and the desire of representatives of different peoples for mutual assistance. Living in the same territory with the indigenous population-the Evenks and Buryats, the old-timers gradually acquired some anthropological features, borrowed elements of culture, language, identity, and everyday appearance of these peoples. For example, Chita citizens have the opportunity to meet New Year three times : on a New Year's Day, an Old New Year's Day and Sagaalga - the holiday of the White month. Sagaalga came to us from the depths of centuries and is a national holiday associated with the historical and cultural traditions of the Buryat people. According to Eastern astrology, this holiday is the beginning of spring, the beginning of purification and renewal of all nature, including man, as part of nature. Sagaalga was first held in Chita in 1989.



Chita Datsan

In turn, bringing and spreading among the native population their own economic skills and techniques, the old-timers contributed to the development of agriculture, construction of cities. Thus, a certain type of local population, which is called "gurans", was gradually formed on the territory of Transbaikalia based on the Buryat, Evenk and mainly Russian ethnic groups. Since the second half of the seventeenth century to the mid-nineteenth century was the formation of another social group - the Cossacks. It traces its lineage back to Russian military men (Cossacks). In Chita, a youth club "Multinational Transbaikalia" was opened, rallying activists of all diasporas of the city and region. The main goal of the organizers is to jointly develop the ideas of tolerance and humanism in a multinational society. Buryats, Armenians, Tatars, Bashkirs, Germans....the list of nationalities can be continued for a long time. All of them rightfully consider themselves as Chita citizens and are proud that Transbaikalia has become their home. Young, active, purposeful... They have different roots, traditions, culture, but one at all desire for world peace. United in one club, the multinational youth takes a course to create a society based on equality and interethnic harmony.



Chita Cathedral mosque

A large number of nationalities affected the diversity of religion. Chita is widely known for several religious movements that manage to coexist within the same city. Chita Cathedral mosque was built in 1904-1906 thanks to the efforts of the Tatar community. In Chita there is Orthodox Church, Muslim mosque, Jewish synagogue, Catholic Church in the shortest distance. In 2006, the construction of the largest temple in Siberia "In the name of the Kazan icon of the mother of God" was completed in Chita. In 2008, the Buddhist datsan was restored in the city. Each temple has a stunning beauty and architectural style. All this testifies to the tradition of ethnic and religious tolerance and the desire of representatives of different peoples for mutual assistance.

Activities

1. Have you got the information about gurans? Read the text and answer the questions.

- Where do gurans live?
- What language do they speak?
- What traditions do they have?

2. Would you like to celebrate Sagaalga? Explain why.

Word box

Find out synonyms to

indigenous population [ɪn'dɪʒ(ə)nəs] = aboriginal population=...

multi-['mʌltɪ] =

tolerance =

Museums



Trans-Baikal Regional Museum of Local Lore named after A.K. Kuznetsov (Babushkin Street, 113)



Museum and Exhibition Center of the Trans-Baikal Region (Chkalov Street, 120a)



Museum of retro cars (Molokovsky Highway)

Activities

There are some museums in Chita. Look through the list and choose one of them for visit. Explain your choice.

- Museum of Military Glory of the Siberian Military District (Lenin Street, 86);
- Trans-Baikal Railway Museum (Magistralnaya Street, 15);
- Geological Museum of Trans-Baikal State University (Gorky Street, 28);
- Art Museum (Babushkin Street, 108).

What are museums for?

In our amazing city, there are unique museums and the monuments of architecture which house interesting exhibitions and tell us a lot about our region: about the unique nature, history, works of art by masters and artists of Chita and much more.

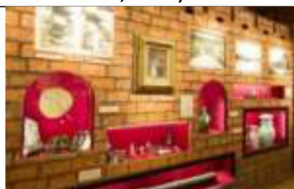
Are they really worth visiting?

Michael the Archangel Church was built in 1776. It is a masterpiece of wooden architecture built without any nail. The Decembrists and their wives sought spiritual comfort and prayed there. It functioned as a Church until 1938. In 1985, the Museum of Decembrists (Decembrists Street, 3b) was opened in the Church. It displays collections of objects which tell about the history of our town, Decembrists' personal things, and historical documents. More than 870 items are exhibited, they literally breathe antiquity.

Trans-Baikal regional Museum of Local Lore named after A. K. Kuznetsov is one of the oldest museums in Siberia and the Far East. The Museum was founded by N. V. Kirillov and A. K. Kuznetsov in 1894 as the Chita branch of the Amur Department of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society. It opened its doors to guests on April 16, 1895. On permanent display there is a Department of nature, division of the pre-revolutionary past and the history Department of the Soviet period.

The date of Foundation of the Museum and Exhibition Center is considered to be October 5, 1980, when the Fifth Zone exhibition "Soviet Far East" was opened in the newly built building. The best works of the exhibition became the foundation of the future Museum. Now it has several collections of considerable artistic interest: "Paintings by artists of Siberia and Far East of the XX century", "Art of Trans-Baikal artists", "Soviet graphics. XX century", "National art of Buryatia of XIX-XX centuries", "Russian folk toy", etc. The Museum Collection has about 6000 exhibits located in 3 exhibition halls.

Museum of Retro Cars houses the largest and most significant collection of retro cars in Transbaikalia. Boris Alekseevich Pakhtanov has been collecting the cars for more than 40 years. Here you can see "Zaporozhets", and "Victory", and "Volga", and "BMW"... Most of the cars are on the move, and many of them participate in city parades on the Victory Day, the city day, festive processions.



Word box

Which word doesn't fit in the line? Why?

1. install, house, visit, locate, exhibit, display, demonstrate
2. exhibition, show, window, exposition, lay-out

STUDENT SPRING OF THE SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION COUNTRIES (КУЗНЕЦОВА ЕЛЕНА АНАТОЛЬЕВНА, МБОУ "СРЕДНЯЯ ОБЩЕОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНАЯ ШКОЛА № 9" Г. ЧИТЫ)

Student Spring of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Countries



1.

Opening ceremony

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation or SCO was founded in 2001 in Shanghai. China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan had been members of the Shanghai Five, founded in 1996; after the inclusion of Uzbekistan in 2001, the members renamed the organisation. What is it for?



2.



3.

Activities

1. Imagine that the pictures above are from your photo album. Describe the photo 3 to your friend. In your talk remember to speak about:

- where and when the photo was taken;
- what is in the photo;
- why you keep the photo in your album;
- why you decided to show it to your friend.

2. In the text, find the phrases that describe:

- a) the SCO
- b) the RUY
- c) the aim of the festival
- d) the participants of the festival

3. What do you think the festival achieved its goals? Explain why.

"Student Spring of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization countries" is an international festival of the Russian Union of Youth (RUY) program for support and development of student creativity "Russian Student Spring". The program founders are the RUY, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation. The RUY encouraged the initiative of the Transbaikal Territory to hold the international festival in Chita. "Student Spring Festival of the SCO countries" was organized and held with the support of Government of the Russian Federation. From 2 to 7 July 2014, Chita became the capital of the international festival "Student spring of the Shanghai cooperation organization — 2014".

More than 3 thousand people from 14 participating States and partner countries of the SCO (China, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, India, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Turkey, Belarus, Venezuela, Iran, and Pakistan) and 32 delegations of the regions of the Russian Federation had a choice of such areas as music, choreography, original genre, circus, student sport, forum of young leaders. At least 50 talented students, athletes, young leaders, representatives of the largest public organizations from each SCO country took part in the competitions.

Cat Manul (a small wild cat living in the grasslands and steppes of Zabaikalsky Krai), the mascot of the festival was presented at the opening of the international festival. The cat was about four meters tall; his paws were fixed on special mechanisms that allowed the figure to move.

The program of events included educational, business, sports, artistic and cultural programs, media SCO Youth Forum, youth military-sports games "Summer Lightning", International Competition grace and artistic craftsmanship "Queen of Spring". The Festival hosted youth military sports game "Zarnitsa". The territory stretched for more than 1 thousand km, with the involvement of the forces and means of the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation, the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation. The number of participants was more than 1 thousand people. The concept of this game has no analogues in the territory of the SCO countries. The Festival had a forum of young journalists of SCO, which covered issues of youth mobility in media sphere, the media efforts of the SCO countries to promote the ideas of friendship and good neighbourliness.

Word building

Fill in the table, add some more examples

suffix	part of speech	example
-tion	noun	organisation
-ness		
-ship		
-ing		
-al	adjective	

BLOOM THE BAGUL! HELLO, FESTIVAL! (КУЗНЕЦОВА ЕЛЕНА АНАТОЛЬЕВНА, МБОУ "СРЕДНЯЯ ОБЩЕОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНАЯ ШКОЛА № 9" Г. ЧИТЫ)

Bloom the bagul! Hello, festival!



Opening ceremony



Bagulnik in spring

Spring comes to Chita late, but bright. In late April – early May, even before the appearance of foliage, bagulnik (crimson) blooms. It dresses up the hills with a purple and pink dress. That's why it is widely used in the names of different items in Chita.



President of the Festival
people's artist of the RSFSR
Alexander Mikhailov

Activities

Why is the Festival important?
According to the text, say which statements (A-D) are true and which are false. Prove it from the text.

- A. The Film Festival is the first film festival in the world.
- B. The film-makers from different countries can participate in the Festival but the winners are only from Chita.
- C. Chita hosts the Festival once a year in spring.
- D. The colour of bagul blossoms is the corporate colour of the film festival.

The Transbaikalian International Film Festival is held annually in Chita. This unique cinematic event is the first film festival in the history, which takes place on the Transbaikalian land, improving its culture, preserving traditions and ethnographic features of Transbaikalia. The President of the Festival is people's artist of the RSFSR Alexander Mikhailov. The organizer of the Festival is the Association of initiative citizens to promote the preservation and development of the ethnographic culture of Siberia "TRANS-Baikal Community». An international jury of at least 4 leading film-makers is created to evaluate the competition films. On May 30, 2019, the VIII Transbaikalian Film Festival opened the opportunity for residents of the region to get acquainted with high-quality cinema, see and communicate with famous directors and artists. For the eighth time bright opening, film premieres, gala concert, and creative meetings took place in the regional Philharmonic. The residents of the city met the star participants, theater and film actors, directors, and film figures passed along the carpet of the colour of the bagulnik – the corporate colour of the film festival.

Guests and participants of the festival were welcomed by the Governor of Zabaikalsky Krai Alexander Osipov, the Minister of culture of Zabaikalsky Krai Tatyana Zamilova, President of the festival, people's artist of the RSFSR Alexander Mikhailov, Chairman of the Board of Association "TRANS-Baikal Association" Victor Shkulev, member of the organizing Committee SMCF, Advisor to the Vice-President of the company "Norilsk Nickel", the General sponsor of the festival, Sergey Samoilov.

On June 2, Chita hosted the closing ceremony of the Eighth TRANS-Baikal International film festival. The guests of the event walked along the bagul carpet again, the results were summed up, and the winners received awards.

In the main program the awards were presented in the following categories:

- best film - "Daddy's suit", directed By Hao Hong (Taiwan);
- best director: Lila Aviles, the film "the Maid" (Mexico);
- best screenplay-Alexander Plavnik, the film " Here and now»;
- best actor- "brilliant male actor ensemble of the film "Plant", directed by Yuri Bykov (Russia);
- best actress-LAN Mei, River of love, directed by Han Wanfeng (China).

Word box

- foliage** ['fəʊliɪdʒ] - the green leaves of a plant
- director** - manager/ producer/head/ film director
- film-maker** - a person who directs or produces films for the cinema or television
- premiere** ['premiə] – first night/ opening night/ new production

Blooming Bagulnic



Ask any resident of Chita what the symbol of our region is? And for sure every second answers you that it is bagulnic! It is no accident that this amazingly beautiful lilac-crimson blossom inspires musicians to create beautiful music.



Activities

You are considering visiting a concert and you'd like to get more information. Find out the following:

- time
- length
- ticket price
- if any discounts are available
- payment options

"Blooming bagulnic" is an international festival of arts. In 1976, the festival acquired the status of all - Russian, in 2006 it became international. Together with the spring, the main musical event comes to the capital of Zabaikalsky Krai. "Blooming bagulnic" has gained a reputation as one of the most important cultural events of the Transbaikalian territory. The main idea of the festival is to introduce the masterpieces of world musical culture, to preserve and increase the spiritual and moral potential of the inhabitants of the region.

The festival program presents the names of only highly professional performers of academic, jazz and sacred music, who perform at the best concert venues in the world. Every year thousands of fans and connoisseurs of art come to the festival to enjoy the work of their favourite artists. This cultural event gives a lot of positive emotions to artists and spectators. And every year "bagulnic" blossoms with new colors and sounds to leave in the hearts of its participants.

The most memorable event and a real gift for spectators was the opening of "Blooming bagulnic-2019" on April 6. The famous Chamber orchestra of the creative workshop of Leonid Lundstrem (Moscow) came to Chita for the first time. The orchestra leader Leonid Lundstrem is the nephew of the founder of the great jazz orchestra and our famous countryman Oleg Lundstrem. Oleg Leonidovich Lundstrem was born on April 2, 1916 in Chita. His family moved to Harbin, China when he was five. He was a Soviet and Russian jazz composer and conductor of the Oleg Lundstrem Orchestra, one of the earliest officially recognized jazz bands in the Soviet Union. Residents of Chita came into contact with the work of the successor of the musical dynasty of the Lundstrem family. Soloists are winners of international competitions Robert Brem (violin) and Maestro Leonid Lundstrem (violin).

Tickets and season tickets for the festival are purchased at the box office of the Philharmonic (Butina Str., 51), and online. Ticket price is from 800 to 1400 rubles. There is a subscription system available for the events of the festival "Blooming crimson": a one-time purchase of tickets for 3 concerts or more - the price of the 1st ticket will be 350-400 rubles, depending on the concert.

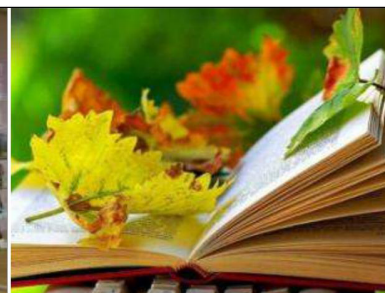
Word box

connoisseur [kɒnə'sɜː] - a person with special knowledge or appreciation of a field, esp in the arts

season ticket - a ticket for a series of concerts, within a limited time

subscription - the advance purchase of tickets for a series of concerts, operas, etc

Transbaikal autumn



Golden Transbaikal autumn always fascinates us with the beauty of nature. It has another sign and it is a traditional literary festival that attracts the attention of not only residents of Chita and the Transbaikal territory. Writers and book lovers of many regions of our country know about it. And what about you?



Georgy Rudolfovich Graubin
(11.06 1929-11.05 2011)

Activities

Comment on the following statement.
The best holidays and festivals are those with specific traditions for celebrating.

What is your opinion? Do you agree with this statement?

Write 200–250 words.

Use the following plan:

- make an introduction (state the problem)
- express your personal opinion and give 2–3 reasons for your opinion
- express an opposing opinion and give 1–2 reasons for this opposing opinion
- explain why you don't agree with the opposing opinion
- make a conclusion restating your position

The annual literary festival "Transbaikal autumn" is the brightest event in the literary life of Chita. At first the holiday of the book "Transbaikal autumn" was laid in September 1965, when the first seminar of young writers of Eastern Siberia and the Far East was held in Chita. It was attended by about 50 well-known and more than 70 young authors. The initiator and the main organizer of the seminar was the Transbaikal writer Georgy Rudolfovich Graubin. More than one generation grew on the works of G. Graubin. He has written more than 70 books for children and adults. The thematic range of works is various. These are essays about pioneers in Siberia, about the nature and history of Transbaikalia.

The festival includes many different events: creative meetings with poets and prose writers, presentations of new books, seminars for novice authors, book, and art and photo exhibitions. Famous writers from Moscow and other Russian cities become frequent guests of the festival. These meetings of experienced and novice writers contribute to the identification, support and training of talented authors, the development of creative potential of the Transbaikal territory.

The main leitmotif of the literary festival "Transbaikal autumn-2019" was the idea of the project "Transbaikalia – our home". The motto of the holiday was "Reading Transbaikalia - Reading youth!". The basic events took place in the Decembrists square, where they worked a musical platform with the participation of Zabaikalsky writers and guests, with music and poetry rooms, exhibitions of books of Zabaikalsky authors, literary playground "Orange mood", the exhibition "Amazing books for special children", the Avenue book trade "Autumn book", trade-fair area and, of course, the Writers' Alley. There were meetings with writers, literary programs, quizzes, games for children of all ages. Senior pupils and students participated in the quest "Literary Transbaikalia".

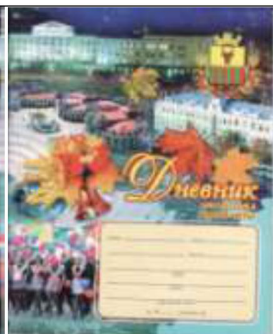
Traditionally, such a significant social and cultural event is held by various cultural institutions of the region: Transbaikal regional library named after A. S. Pushkin, Transbaikal regional children and youth library named after G. R. Graubin, Centralized library system of Chita, Specialized library for the visually impaired and blind of the Transbaikal territory, Transbaikal regional library named after C. Zamcaranov, Transbaikal regional Philharmonic named after O. L. Lundstrom, Zabaikalsky regional school of culture, Zabaikalsky regional school of arts, Military-historical center "House of officers of Zabaikalsky Krai".

The TRANS-Baikal regional public writers' organization, the Transbaikal literary club, publishing houses and network of book shops "Genesis" took an active part in the holiday.

Word box

novice - a person who is new to or inexperienced in a certain task, situation, etc.; beginner

Education



Transbaikal State University

The more we learn, the more we realize how much more there is to learn. Get acquainted with the directions, specialization, opportunities of educational institutions and finally decide on the choice of a suitable profession for you.

Zabaikalsky
Institute of
railway
transportChita
State
Medical
Academy

Chita is a town of students. There are more than 40 000 students.

The wide network of schools provides secondary education there. There are schools with extensive German, Chinese and English teaching. There are also music schools in Chita. Technical schools as Chita agricultural College, Chita technical school of railway transport, Chita College of industry technologies and business provide secondary vocational education. There are also colleges Transbaikal mining College named after M. I. Agoshkov, Transbaikal state College, Chita pedagogical College, Chita Polytechnic College, the Chita medical College.

To get higher education you can choose one from 11 higher educational institutions. All institutions are licensed and have certificates of state accreditation which authorize them to provide training and education. Institutions of higher education in Zabaikalye offer twenty of twenty eight degree programs approved by the Russian Ministry of Education. They include 145 qualifications, 36 bachelor degrees and 27 master degrees. In the top of the list are:

Transbaikal State University

Chita State Medical Academy

Chita Institute of the Baikal state University

Zabaikalsky Institute of railway transport

Zabaikalsky entrepreneurship Institute, Siberian University of consumer cooperation.

You can also improve your skills, or even retrain. You will be helped to master the necessary computer programs Microsoft office, 1C, as well as graphics programs. In addition, in Chita you can pass various trainings and seminars, learn foreign languages or improve their proficiency (courses in English, Chinese, French, etc.).

For creative people there are a variety of hobby centers, master classes in arts and crafts, courses hairdressers, makeup artists, nail service masters, etc. There are 4 research institutes in Chita.

The Regional library named after A.S. Pushkin contains 35000 various books.

Activities

Some students choose future career because it is popular. Others take into account their own interests. What is your opinion? What is necessary for making the right career choice?

1. Make an introduction (state the problem)

many professional fields, many factors to take into account

2. Express your personal opinion and give reasons for it

I think/consider/believe... in my opinion... it seems to me... as far as I understand...

3. Give arguments for the other point of view and explain why you don't agree with it

other people/ my parents/friends/classmates/teachers

4. Draw a conclusion

to sum up... in conclusion... the right career choice to be successful in the future

Word box

The steps of education

1. preschool education
2. secondary education
3. ?
4. ?
5. ?

Hiking over the Titovskaya Hill



Chita at night from the Titovskaya Hill

If you want to enjoy the blue sky and the beauty of the sunny Chita from a bird's eye view you should go to the observation deck on the Titovskaya Hill. You can get to the Titovskaya hill by bus number 30. The bus stops at the observation deck above the railway station, where there is a chapel. From there you can climb even higher, but the slope there is inconvenient: it is better to drive away, get off at the corner of Baranov and Kuibyshev streets and go up from there. On this side the slope is gentler.



Beauty of velvet autumn

Activities

1. Why there are a lot of tourists on the Titovskaya Hill? Read the text and find out the reasons to climb the hill, walk along its slopes and surroundings.

2. Explain the meaning of the local word *sopka*.

3. Explain the way to get to the observation deck on the Titovskaya Hill.

The Titovskaya Sopka (Hill) is a former volcano, which was formed about one million years ago. It was characterized by an explosive type of eruption, so the hill became a real value for archaeologists. The searchers found artifacts of various periods, from stone age to traces of the first Cossack settlements in Chita. The name of the hill was in honor of the archaeologist Elpidifor Titov. Engaged in the excavation of medieval burials he began to study the hill at the beginning of the XXth century. They found the picks from the horns of animals, stone tools, fire pit and even rock paintings of the bronze age. The Titovskaya Hill is a complex of natural monuments located in the south-west of Chita.

There was the true ancient Botanical garden, which was planted by the Chinese about two hundred years ago. In autumn it was especially remarkable. The trees began to change colour, each in their own way — red poplar, aspen and yellow birch, green spruce and pine. From that variety, the slopes turned out streaky. In the mid-twentieth century, a man-made sign "Glory to Labor" was built of those trees. The capital letters had a height of 100 meters, and the diagonal was 350 metres away. Unfortunately, it burnt that's why we cannot admire it now.

The hill is 944.9 m high. The top of the hill is 300 meters above Chita. In 2002, the chapel of St. Alexander Nevsky was built there. It bears the name of the Saint because Alexander Nevsky is honored as the patron Saint of the border lands of Russia.

On the former volcano you can not only learn about the ancient burials, but also plunge into the history of the revolutionary past of Chita. In 1906, revolutionaries and organizers of the Chita Republic were shot at the foot of the hill: A. A. Kosciusko-Voluzhanich, known as Kosciusko-Grigorovich, P. E. Stolyarov, E. V. Zupsman and I. A. Weinstein. At the site of the execution in 1926, a monument was erected in honor of the fighters of the rebel movement.



Word box

excavation [ekska'veiʃn] (archaeology) - ?

medieval [medi'i:vəl] = mediaeval - of, relating to, or in the style of the Middle Ages

burials ['beriəl] – grave, tomb

fire pit - a large hole in the ground for fire

velvet autumn = Indian summer

ПРИРОДА И ЖИВОТНЫЙ МИР РЕГИОНА

SEVERE CLIMATE - SUNNY REGION (КУЗНЕЦОВА ЕЛЕНА АНАТОЛЬЕВНА, МБОУ "СРЕДНЯЯ ОБЩЕОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНАЯ ШКОЛА № 9" Г. ЧИТЫ)

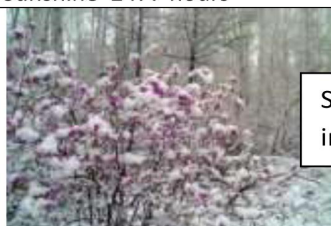
Severe climate – sunny region



The average annual temperature is -3,1 °C
The average annual wind speed is 2.3 m/s
The average annual humidity is 65 %
Sunshine 2477 hours



The climate of any area is determined by its geographical location and is formed under the influence of solar radiation, atmospheric circulation, moisture turnover and the nature of the underlying surface.



Snowfall
in Mai



Snowfall in
September

Activities

1. There is no bad weather, there are bad clothes. Read the text and find out main features of the weather in Chita. Give some tips for foreigners to cope with weather conditions in Chita in different seasons.

2. Study the pictures above.
What weather events are illustrated?
Do you like/dislike such weather?

3. Do you find the weather conditions in Chita nice for living? Explain why.



Due to the geographical location (Chita is located at an altitude of 650 m above sea level) atmospheric pressure is below 700 mm Hg and the air is not only very well heated, but also very well cooled. As a result, intraday temperature amplitudes can have very large values. So many residents of the city are characterized by increased weather sensitivity.

Chita is located in the zone of temperate latitudes in the interior of the continent of Asia, removed from the oceans and seas and significantly elevated above sea level. It is dominated by continental polar air masses with the advantage of convective types of weather in summer and radiation cooling in anticyclones in winter.

Chita climate is sharply continental. The continental climate here is much more pronounced than at the same latitudes in the cities of Western Siberia and the Far East. By the severity and dryness of winter, as well as frost, Chita is approaching the climate characteristic of Yakutia.

Winter in Chita is long and severe, with little snow, with a stable clear dry weather. It is characterized by calm, severe frosts, sudden changes in temperature and atmospheric pressure during the day and from day to day. Winter lasts for about six months, with low temperatures and minimal snowfall. In total, the average temperature drops below zero for the first time since mid-October. Warming occurs in early April, so the duration of the winter period is about 177 days. Winter period is characterized by temperature inversions when the air temperature does not decrease with altitude, but increases, which lead to the formation of smog. In February, Chita is blown by strong winds, and low snow cover lasts on average until mid-April. Spring, beginning in April, is characterized by unstable weather with frequent returns of frost. Spring is short, clear and dry, spring frosts can last until the end of June. Snowfalls happen in spring or in autumn. Summers are short and warm, in some years hot. The average duration of climatic summer (with a period of average daily temperatures above +15 degrees) in Chita is 77 days. Summer begins on average on June 7; the last day of the summer period falls on August 22. The daytime temperature in Chita in summer is mainly high. The air cools quickly, so that the nights in the city are cool.

Autumn is characterized by early frosts, clear, mostly dry weather. In September Chita is beautifully decorated with colourful leaves. Chita is one of the sunniest cities in Russia, so in the year there are 43% more hours with the sun than in Moscow, and in this indicator the city is approximately the same as such southern cities of Russia as Anapa or Sochi.

Word box

Fill in the table. Use the information in the text.

season	duration	temperature	natural events
winter			
			snowfalls